



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Emergency Management*

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FEMA-1525-DR-VA  
***Commonwealth Situation Report #12***  
***Thursday, July 15, 2004***

### **1. Situation**

- A system of severe storms began moving through Southwest Virginia on May 24, 2004. Flash flooding occurred on May 24-25 in Tazewell and Russell counties. Tornadoes damaged homes in Lee County on May 28. Flash floods impacted Buchanan County and several other counties in Southwest Virginia over the June 12-15 period. On May 25 Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency for Tazewell and Russell Counties and on June 3 expanded the declaration to include Lee County.
- On June 2, Governor Warner requested that President Bush issue a major disaster declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties. He requested federal aid through the Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs.
- President Bush granted a Federal Disaster Declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties on June 15, 2004. The Commonwealth's request to add Buchanan County was approved June 29.
- On June 25, 2004, Governor Warner signed the FEMA-Commonwealth Agreement to implement joint recovery programs.
- The incident period began on May 24 and ended June 26, 2004.
- Amendment #3 to the Notice of a Major Disaster, effective July 13, 2004, made all counties and independent cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

### **2. Weather Forecast for Buchanan, Russell and Tazewell Counties**

***Today and tomorrow - partly cloudy to clear. Highs in the mid 70s, lows in the mid 50s. West winds 10-15 mph. Chance scattered rain and isolated thunderstorms over the weekend.***

### **3. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives**

- ☐ Implement Commonwealth Emergency Relief to Localities (CERL) Program.
- ☐ Address potential housing and rental resources issues.
- ☐ Implement the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- ☐ Manage public expectations through targeted media releases and contacts with public officials.
- ☐ Implement Other Needs Assistance (ONA) Program.
- ☐ ***Cease work at the DFO at COB on July 21, 2004 and demobilize July 22.***

#### **4. Recovery Activities**

##### **A. Human Services**

###### **□ Individual and Household Program**

- Housing Assistance (HA)
  - FEMA *has approved* four applicants for travel trailers and six applicants for mobile homes *as of July 15. One mobile home and two travel trailers have been delivered and are on-site. FEMA will continue coordination of mobile homes and travel trailers from West Virginia after the closure of this DFO.*
- Other Needs Assistance (ONA)
  - The Dept. of Social Services (DSS) has advised that \$84,952 was approved and **\$84,780** in ONA checks were disbursed.
- See pages **4** and **5** for statistical information on registrations, Housing Assistance, Other Needs Assistance, Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).
- The deadline to register for assistance is August 16, 2004.
- FEMA field inspectors have completed **786** inspections.

###### **□ Volunteer Organizations**

- ⊖ Representatives of the Mennonite Disaster Services visited the disaster area and have offered to evaluate washed-out private bridges brought to their attention by the FEMA VAL to determine if they could provide the labor to rebuild.
- ⊖ Mennonite Disaster Services are evaluating a second private bridge repair.

###### **□ Disaster Recovery Center**

- The DRC was closed at 1PM, Saturday, July 10, 2004. During the nineteen days the center was open, 348 visitors attended.
  - Help continues to be available over the FEMA helpline ***Monday through Friday @ 1 800 621-3362 (TTY 1 800 462-7585).***

###### **□ Donations Management**

- Clinch Valley Community Action (CVCA) is continuing to provide disaster relief to all local counties. They have identified applicant needs and are shipping furniture/other items. They will be open by appointment only and expect to close within the next two weeks. The telephone number for assistance is 276-988-5583. Applicants must continue to be referred by FEMA, American Red Cross or VDEM to be eligible.

###### **□ Disaster Unemployment Assistance**

- Effective June 18, 2004, assistance is available for residents of the declared jurisdictions. Residents can call or visit the nearest Virginia Employment Office. As of 7/12/04, three applications were filed. Two were approved in the amount of \$1068 and one disapproved.

###### **□ Mental Health**

- The Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board is providing mental health assistance for residents of Tazewell, Russell and Buchanan Counties. Applicants needing mental health assistance are being provided the local telephone numbers to call for service.

**B. Mitigation**

- ❑ Mitigation staff has departed the DFO. Work is continuing from VDEM at Trade Court.

**C. Legislative Liaison**

- ❑ State legislative liaison staff continues to advise appropriate Congressional and state legislative representatives of the designated counties from VDEM at Trade Court.

**D. Public Affairs**

- ❑ *Visiting newspapers in Grundy and Richlands to interest them in providing information on homeowner hazard mitigation. A news release and graphics on CD will be provided.*
- ❑ *A news release on changing hours for the disaster registration number has been sent to media. A one month update release is being drafted.*
- ❑ Three news releases were made on July 9 through July 12, "Submit SBA Applications", DRC Summary" and "One Month Update".
- ❑ Checking on opportunity to photograph Mennonites helping build or repair bridges for Media coverage.

**E. Miscellaneous Actions:**

- ❑ VDH (Health) and DEQ (Environmental Quality) in Russell and Tazewell Counties continue to assist citizens with evaluating drinking water safety.
- ❑ Tetanus vaccinations remain available from the local health departments.

**F. State Coordinating Officer**

- ❑ Staffing adjustments continue, 6 state personnel assigned to recovery activities.
- ❑ *The last Commonwealth sit-rep will be **Tuesday, July 20, 2004.***
- ❑ Continuing contact with local Emergency Management Coordinators and other local officials.
- ❑ Coordinated State level Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding with FCO.
- ❑ *Work will cease in the DFO on COB July 21 and demobilization will begin July 22, 2004.*
- ❑ *DFO will be closed Saturday and Sunday July 17-18.*

Signed, Brett Burdick, Deputy SCO

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator  
/s/ Brett A. Burdick, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE-DAILY STATUS REPORT  
FEMA DR-1525VA  
July 15, 2004

COB: 07-14-04

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	898			
DAILY REGISTRATION	5			
		DESIGNATED COUNTIES	4	869
		UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	1	25

INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP) OVERVIEW

Eligibility Rate	94%	Payments Apprv'd	\$1,084,073.43
Registrations Referred	769	Payments Disb'd	\$1,079,454.60
Registrations Approved	574		
Registrations Ineligible	134		
Registrations Withdrawn	22		
Registrations Pending	39	IHP Max Awards	35

HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA)

Eligibility Rate	94%
\$ Amount Apvd	\$999,121.28
\$ Amount Disbursed	\$994,674.24
Referrals	757
Approved	564
Ineligible	139
Withdrawn	21
Pending HA Categories	33

OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA)

Eligibility Rate	16%
\$ Amount Apvd	\$84,952.15
\$ Amount Disbursed	\$84,780.39
Referrals	293
Approved	32
Ineligible	83
Withdrawn	7
Pending ONA Categories	171

INSPECTION SERVICES (IS)

Inspections Issued	786
Returned to FEMA	772
Outstanding	14
Inspectors in the Field	3
Turnaround Time	01.13.35
QC Inspections	34
% Of Inspections Completed	98%

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

Home App. Issued	435
Business App. Issued	69
EIDL	0
Total App. Issued	504
Approved	15
Pending	42
Total \$ Approved	\$255,500

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS		OPEN	CLOSED	TODAY	CUMULATIVE
TAZEWELL (RICHLANDS)	FIXED	6/21/04	7/10/04	0	348
TOTAL				0	348

DESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
BUCHANAN (COUNTY)	<b>2</b>	<b><i>114</i></b>
LEE (COUNTY)	0	<b><i>94</i></b>
RUSSELL (COUNTY)	<b>1</b>	<b><i>326</i></b>
TAZEWELL (COUNTY)	1	<b><i>335</i></b>
TOTAL	<b>4</b>	<b><i>869</i></b>
UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
AUGUSTA (COUNTY)	0	1
BEDFORD (COUNTY)	0	1
DICKENSON (COUNTY)	0	3
DINWIDDIE (COUNTY)	0	1
HANOVER (COUNTY)	0	1
HENRY (COUNTY)	0	1
JEFFERSON (COUNTY)	0	1
PAGE (COUNTY)	0	1
SCOTT (COUNTY)	0	1
SMYTH (COUNTY)	0	1
SOUTHAMPTON (COUNTY)	0	1
WASHINGTON (COUNTY)	0	4
WISE (COUNTY)	0	2
TOTAL	0	<b><i>19</i></b>